

## Ronnie Gilbert to Weave Magic for CSZ

**T**he magical night approaches! On Saturday evening, May 13 at 8 pm, Ronnie Gilbert will take the stage at First Congregational Church (Post and Mason streets, San Francisco) for a fundraising concert for Congregation Sha'ar Zahav. We are very excited at the prospect of hearing Ronnie sing many of her best-loved songs for us, and the concert promises to be one of the most memorable events in the history of our congregation.

Formerly a member of the folk quartet The Weavers, in recent years Ronnie has embarked on a solo singing career. However, she continues to collaborate with many other wonderful artists in concert and has recorded an album with Holly Near. She has also performed in various settings with Pete Seeger and Arlo Guthrie. Ronnie is best known for such songs as "Goodnight Irene," "Kisses Sweeter Than Wine," "On Top of Old Smokey" and other folk classics.

This concert is the major annual fund raiser for our congregation, and we hope that all of you are planning to attend. Some tickets are still available, but please send in your order as soon as possible in order to assure yourself a seat. Tickets are \$12 for members and \$15 for non-members. We will be providing free child care and there is wheelchair accessibility. All ticket orders received after May 6 will be held at the door.

Mail your ticket orders to: CSZ, P.O. Box 31785, San Francisco, CA 94131. Please be sure to include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your order. We look forward to a wonderful evening of music and fun. See you there!



## 1989 Elections Slate

**E**ach CSZ member should have received a packet of materials for our 1989 elections on Sunday, May 21, at 4 pm. If you haven't received the packet, please contact the synagogue office.

The packet includes candidates' statements and instructions for obtaining an absentee ballot. The slate of candidates is:

<b>President</b>	Eric Keitel
<b>Vice President</b>	Robin Leonard
<b>Treasurer</b>	Ben Schalit
<b>Recorder</b>	Gail Friedlander

For five open Va'ad positions (in alphabetical order):

Bill Ashley-Dobbin	Merry Luskin
Leslie Bergson	Jonathan Mesinger
Michael Bettinger	Jose-Luis Moscovich
Ann Biderman	Ora Prochovnick
Tiela Chalmers	Alita Rosenfeld
Sanford Friedman	Bill Schlichter

## Social Program Committee Returns

Remember those social events that the congregation used to organize? You know, those nights out at the theater, the picnics at Angel Island, or the congregation baseball games, bicycling or skiing

*Continued on page 5*



## Taking Care of Business

Sunday afternoon ...

Oh, the delightful images I can conjure up when I think back to some of the best Sunday afternoons I've spent—walking on the beach, bicycling through Golden Gate Park, chatting on the phone with a friend who lives back East, enjoying a matinee movie, making a pot of soup to last the week, visiting a new exhibit at the local museum, barbecuing with friends, relaxing at home with my lover, and the list goes on.

And even if I'm not having one of my best-ever Sunday afternoons, the time can be well-spent doing a little cleaning, washing the car, balancing my check-book, watching a baseball game on television, or grocery shopping.

We lead very busy lives. For most of us, Sunday afternoon is one of the few times during the week that we have the luxury to do what we really want, or need, to do. So how do I (or anyone else for that matter) convince you to put aside one cherished Sunday afternoon, and come to a synagogue meeting?

Sunday, May 21, at 4 pm, is this year's annual congregational meeting. Here, the president, treasurer, rabbi and committee chairs highlight the year gone by and the year to come, the annual budget is brought to the congregation for approval, any proposed bylaw amendments or other major synagogue business (e.g., the decision to become a sanctuary congregation or to begin a religious school for children) are presented to the congregation for a vote, and the officers and Va'ad members are elected. In most years, when the synagogue is running smoothly and nothing particularly controversial is on the annual meeting agenda, attendance is very low, barely a quorum. In other years, when a "hot" topic is on the agenda, attendance is higher, but still nothing to write home and brag about.

Let's face it. When there's nothing spicy to discuss, the meetings are basically boring. We listen to 20 or so reports; ask a few questions about, and then approve, the budget; then elect the officers (running unopposed) and the Va'ad members (occasionally running opposed). I, too, can think of places I'd rather be and things I'd rather be doing.

So let me return to my original question: How do I convince you to put aside

a Sunday afternoon and come to the annual meeting?

*It's important for you to attend.* A lot goes on at Sha'ar Zahav. We provide weekly Shabbat evening services, monthly Shabbat morning and healing services, and services for the holidays. We have 25 committees and chavurot. We have at least one or two big parties during the year. We publish a newsletter. We have a cemetery. We are having a Ronnie Gilbert concert. We belong to the UAHC and the World Congress. We charge dues. We charge admission to many of our programs. We have educational classes. We have monthly brunches at Kaiser Hospital for PWAs and their caregivers. Our seder is at Lehr's Restaurant. Does anyone care about any of this? Does anyone have an opinion? There are few avenues of feedback, yet the rabbi, officers, Va'ad members and committee chairs want to know if we're meeting your needs. Some members let us know they're dissatisfied by resigning, reducing their dues, or rarely coming. We want to know before it ever reaches that point.

Clearly, unhappy members aren't the only ones who should attend the annual meeting. Can you suggest an improvement to or change of a program? Do you have something new to propose? Or are you surprised by the depth of our programs and services and suddenly feel out of touch? If you answered yes to any of those questions, come and give your input, or just learn what's going on.

"But," you may be saying, "everything is fine. I really have neither complaints nor suggestions. I read the *Forward* every month, so I feel in touch. I just don't feel like spending a Sunday afternoon being bored." To you, let me thank you for your compliment on the state of things. In return, we've made changes to the annual meeting because we want you to come, but don't want to bore you. No committee reports will be presented (reports will go out in the mailing, and chairs are being asked to attend to answer questions). The ensemble will perform for about 20 minutes. Food will be provided. And the elections committee is presenting 12 candidates for the five Va'ad vacancies.

I hope I've convinced you to come.

—Robin Leonard, President

## Jewish Bio-Ethics

Rabbi Yoel Kahn will lead a four-session series on Jewish bio-ethics beginning on Tuesday evening, May 9.

Each session will explore a different contemporary ethical problem in the light of traditional and modern Jewish teaching and our own contemporary perspective. Topics will include, among others: choosing to refuse treatment; euthanasia; how to distribute limited resources; and genetic engineering.

The series will meet for four consecutive Tuesday evenings, from 8:30 to 9:45. Everyone is welcome. This CSZ Adult Education Committee program is free to members; \$10 for non-members. Please call the office to sign up or for more information.

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Members of the Congregation receive the *Forward*. For a donation of \$12/year, non-members will receive the *Forward*.

All newsletter copy should be typed, double-spaced and is due no later than the date of the Va'ad meeting. It should be sent to the synagogue office, marked to the attention of the *Forward*. All material is subject to editing; material will not be returned.

Members of the Newsletter Committee are Alita Rosenfeld & Howard Blechman, co-chairs, Amy Blasenheim, Leonard Brill, Margaret Livingston, and Henry Mach (general editorial and production), Rick Wilson (advertising coordinator), Frank Hyman, Alex Ingersoll, Sam Thal and Eli Weinstein (distribution). The *Forward* is typeset by David Lester, Pagesetter Typography and printed by Lou Greene.

**Display Ads** are \$15 per column inch for non-members and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

**Classified Ads** are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words. No personals accepted.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, marked attention *Forward* advertising. The advertising deadline is the second Monday of the month. The *Forward* reserves the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste.



## \* \* \* Pre-Purim Party Palaver \* \* \*

### *Esther got ahead, Haman lost his head, audience had a ball getting into act*

So what more can I say? If you were there, you know what I'm talking about. If not, I'll tell you, so you shouldn't suffer any longer.

Imagine our sanctuary transformed into a showroom at Chord Strums, a very fancy Persian store in the most hoo-ha neighborhood of Shushan. Not to mention our oneg room, looking like, epis, one of those trendy noshing spots with the canopy hanging from the ceiling.

For all these lovely decorations we are grateful to Jeff Rubin, who, *kina hora*, took time off from a good job and the tumult of moving to create just the right effect for the show.

Speaking of show, such a fashion show there was like you wouldn't believe! Mantra Ben Ya'akov, looking stunning in an elegant full-length silver sequined gown, was so wonderful, I can't begin to tell you; such charm, such poise, such wit, such delivery. I laughed so hard, I could have wet my pants. As if this wasn't enough, Mantra also loaned many items from her own wardrobe. And she wasn't the only one. Allan Gold, David Gass and Marty Carls shared some of their loveliest outfits with us for the event. That Marty has such a way with fashions. He selected the perfect accessories and styles for many of the models, instructing them in the proper way to show off the designs, creating a total look. Those seated towards the front could hear him coaching his "girls" from offstage, "Attitude, attitude!"

Talk about total looks, what would a model be without makeup? So, for this we should thank Nathan Robinson, who, for the second year in a row, did a fine makeup job on all the models and actors. This was no easy task, considering that some of the models had quite heavy beards. I'd never seen anything like it. Last year it was the same way.

But what does it matter? When the models, one by one, strutted down the runway, I knew for sure, King Ahasuerus would have his hands full deciding who to pick as his queen. (Personally, I was torn between Eleanor the Amazon and Bambi.) As I'm sure you've guessed by now, the king chose Esther. Oy!

Without even realizing it, we're talking story now, and when you talk story,

you're talking script. For their help I shouldn't forget to thank Mantra (such a talent), David Gellman, and Mark Mendelow. And what would a play be without actors. Scott Mezistrano and Leslie Bergson made sure that all the parts were cast and collected donations for our AIDS fund besides.



You should excuse me. I got so caught up talking about the play, I forgot to mention that no one would have shown up if not for the beautifully executed flyer by Rob Tat. Also, between the door and the show was food, of course. Can you do anything without a good nosh? Ooh, the nashes; what *meichels*! (That's "ch" as in challah, not "k" as in Katz.)



Lisa Katz, Michael Erceg, Sanford Friedman, Jerry Hipps, and Marc Mencher baked the most delicious hamantaschen. Kate Sharp was so generous in making all that wonderful hummos. (Having enjoyed her hummos for the second year, I feel like it's become a Purim tradition.) Allan Brandstein

made sure we had plenty of carrot and celery sticks, and Michael Bettinger did the same with the parsley. La Mediterranee made the yummy baba ghanoush and pita bread (and didn't charge us tax!).

All this tasty nasherei was set up so nice on plates by Lenore Cohen and Marc Mencher. Susan Stahl made sure we had what to eat on. Rena Frantz, Ora Prochovnick, David Shaber and Steve Weitz staffed the food table, while Susan Gelmis, Jerry Rosenstein and Steve Shotland poured the beverages. Thanks to all of them, we made some more money for our AIDS fund.

Without the artistic signs drawn by Rick Wilson we would've had to ask "how much for the hamantaschen?" and "where's makeup?" Lee Morrow, George Ash, David Shaber and Marc Mencher helped decorate (after all, Jeff couldn't do it by himself). Throughout the evening we shmoozed and danced to music loaned by Steve Greenberg and Jonathan Schwartz. Jerry Rosenstein, Sanford Friedman, Jerry Hipps, Jeff Rubin, Frank Bush, Ron Lezell, Marc Mencher, and Kirk Hinman were all a godsend to stay and help clean up.

Thanks to all the great actors and models (in order of appearance, sort of): Gary Glasser, Leslie Bergson, Ben Schalit, Tristano Palemino, Rena Frantz, Richard Inlander, Ron Lezell, Andy Rose, Rabbi Kahn, Allan Gold, David Glassberg, Marc Mencher, Susan Gelmis, Robin Leonard, Ely Weinstein, Jerry Rosenstein, Kipp Leyser, Jerry Hipps, Sanford Friedman, Bruce Priebe, Jill Rose, Joshua Rose, Sharyn Saslasky, Steve Shotland, and Ron Lindenau.

Finally, a big thank you to Tom Holt, my right-hand man. He was always there with encouragement and support, helping pull together all the loose ends: shlepping, making lists, decorating, putting up, taking down, usually tolerating me and my mishegas during the anxious pre-Pre-Purim Party period. (Say *that* fast 10 times!)

Thank you to everyone who helped. You should live and be well.

—Steve Elman,

Pre-Purim Party Chairperson

Wanted: Pre-Purim Party photographs. Anyone who took photos at the party, please call Steve at 651-5857.



## Women's Equality/Women's Lives

The right to safe, legal abortion—a right many of us take for granted today—is again being challenged. On April 26, the U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments in a case challenging its 1972 *Roe vs. Wade* decision. The decision in this case is impossible to predict; there is a real danger that the court will turn back the clock and substantially limit a woman's right to assume responsibility for her own body.

Regardless of the Supreme Court's decision, safe and legal abortion is not readily available to many women throughout this country. In 37 states, poor women are denied Medicaid payments for abortions, virtually eliminating that choice for them. In California, the Legislature routinely refuses to fund Medi-Cal abortions. It is only through court order, renewed each year, that the state provides funding for poor women. In numerous state legislatures, restrictive legislation has been proposed which will sharply limit women's access to legal and safe abortion. In the Bay Area, Operation Rescue demonstrators continue to harass, intimidate and even stop women who choose abortions.

At the march in Washington on April 9 for Women's Equality/Women's Lives (in recent years, second in size only to the 1987 March on Washington) and a the well-attended San Francisco march on April 2, many demonstrators carried coat hangers as vivid reminders of the days of illegal and unsafe back-alley abortion. The large turnouts at the local and national demonstrations illustrated the wide commitment to defending and furthering the hard-won right to safe and legal abortions for all women who choose them.

The ongoing struggle over legalized abortion is a fundamental issue in the liberation of women. As such it should be of concern to all of us. It is an important matter for us as gay and lesbian Jews.

Starting with the Bible, the Jewish tradition has never considered the unborn fetus a person. The Mishnah permits abortion up until the time of birth, if necessary, to save the mother's life. Our support for legalized abortion is based on the Jewish tradition's teaching about when life begins. As modern Jews, we have a broader understanding than

our ancestors of the traditional category of "the mother's life."

Most importantly, Reform Judaism is committed to responsible, individual, ethical decision-making. We do not believe it is the proper role of the rabbi, the synagogue (and certainly not the state) to tell women what they can and cannot do with their lives and their bodies. As a tenet of religious faith, we insist that such a decision must be the province of each woman. As members of a minority community, we must be vigilant against the efforts of some to impose, through law, a religious agenda on the entire nation. The proposal for a Constitutional amendment to outlaw abortion is a dangerous companion to the proposals calling for prayer in the public schools, and for limits on free speech in the name of "public decency."

The right to reproductive freedom is a critical matter for all gay and lesbian people. At the core of the debate is whether the government or society can rule on how we use and take responsibility for our own bodies and our own lives. The same people who oppose anti-discrimination legislation on sexual orientation, and who oppose funding for AIDS education, also oppose funding for abortions and women's rights to choose. The coalitions we support in this struggle are our natural allies as we work to further our legal protection and freedom of choice in other areas as well.

The Religious Action Center, the lobbying and organizing office of Reform Judaism, has been a leading defender of this issue in the legislature and, in coalition with other religious groups, before the courts. Many of you were present at the march on April 2. As individuals and as a congregation committed to women's equality and women's lives, this issue is of concern to all of us. As a Jewish congregation, as a caring community in support of its members, as an organization of gays and lesbians and their supporters, our communal voice—silent until now—must be raised.

Let us turn our concern into action. For more information on taking action, contact Lisa Katz, CSZ Social Action co-chair, 285-4934; Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights, Box 41924, Sacramento, CA 95841, (916) 338-5533; Northern California Abortion Rights League

(CARAL), 751-0300; and the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, 2027 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

—Rabbi Yoel Kahn

## Parents Discuss Tzedakah

What do you do when approached by a panhandler? This provocative question launched a Saturday morning discussion, one in a series of parent study programs which complement our Kadimah religious school curriculum. Parents met with the rabbi to study about *tzedakah*, a subject their children had recently explored in class. *Tzedakah*, often translated as charity but more appropriately "righteousness," is the responsibility to see to the needs of others who are unable to meet their own needs.

We described our individual responses to panhandlers—contributing to organizations rather than individuals, reacting impulsively, feelings of guilt and confusion, giving food but not money, etc. We went on to talk more generally about *tzedakah*.

According to Jewish tradition, one should give at least 10 percent of one's income as *tzedakah*. Those who give 20 percent are considered "generous" and 5 percent "acceptable." Even those who themselves are beneficiaries of *tzedakah* are expected to give to others.

We examined Maimonides' degrees of *tzedakah*, which ranks acts of *tzedakah* according to the extent of assistance, the anonymity of giver and recipient, and the attitude of the giver. We considered how our responsibilities may have changed since we no longer live in a cohesive and exclusively Jewish community.

There were no easy answers, but we all appreciated the chance to explore the questions. The parent education program has met periodically throughout the year. The most recent program was a parent-child Passover treasure hunt followed by a discussion on how to lead a Seder for children. The final program for this school year will be the dinner and children's service on May 5.

—Margaret Rosoff



## The Aleinu Prayer

The *Aleinu* prayer, proclaiming God as Ruler over a diverse humanity, has been recited as the closing prayer of the three daily worship services ever since the 13th century. At Sha'ar Zahav, the *Aleinu* retains this role of the concluding prayer in our Friday evening services (as well as in our High Holy Day and Festival services), typically followed only by the Mourner's *Kaddish* and a final song or songs.

According to legend, the *Aleinu* was instituted by Joshua upon the conquest of Jericho. Another source claims the *Aleinu* was composed around the time of the Maccabees. Others attribute the *Aleinu* to Rav, founder of the third century Sura Academy, who wrote this prayer for inclusion in the *Rosh Hashanah Musaf* (Additional) service. Indeed, the *Aleinu* still appears in the *Musaf* service on *Rosh Hashanah*, as part of the *Shofar* service.

Our *siddur* explains that the crux of the *Aleinu* prayer is to acknowledge and appreciate the special destiny designed for us, and to accept "the unique attributes with which we, in God's image, are created." We are reminded that we have special roles to play in our lives, both by direct action and by way of example to others.

The *Aleinu* is one of the three prayers in our *Shabbat* worship service during which some people bow (along with the *Barchu* and, at the beginning, middle and end of the *Amidah*). At the beginning of the second sentence of the *Aleinu*, we read:

"*Va-a-nach-nu kor-im* (And we bend the knee) *U-mish-ta-cha-vim* (and bow) *U-mo-dim* (and acknowledge) *Lif-nei Melech ...* (before the Ruler of Rulers ...)"

The word "*U-mish-ta-cha-vim*" literally means "prostrate oneself." This is reflected in our custom of having service leaders prostrate themselves as they chant the *Aleinu* during the High Holy Days.

In a traditional synagogue, congregants do indeed bend the knee and then bow in conjunction with the appropriate word, and then resume standing tall by the time "before the Ruler of Rulers ..." is reached so as already to be in a position of formality and respect as God's name is recited. Others prefer to remain bowed during the recitation of God's name as an indication of humility and

reverence. At CSZ, where people come from many different traditions, we are supportive of diversity in worship styles. During the *Aleinu*, you may bow or not as you find most meaningful and conducive to prayer.

—Jonathan Funk,  
The Ritual Committee

## Social Program

(Continued from page 1)

trips? Over the past few years the Social Committee at CSZ has been dormant, but that's changing.

Maybe you are asking yourself, "What is the difference between the Social Program Committee, the Social Action Committee, the Women's Chavurah and the Men's Chavurah?" A good question. First of all, the Social Action Committee is CSZ's political outreach to the community. The Women's and Men's Chavurot plan social activities, but their activities are geared exclusively for the women or men in the congregation.

The Social Program Committee is intended to offer social events for the whole congregation. During the month of March, we had our first event—Israeli Dancing with Decadent Desserts. In addition to old favorites like the horah, we learned Israeli couples' dancing, as well as line dances. It was fun and an event we will host again.

For the month of May, the congregation will be gathering for a Night Out at the Theater (see accompanying article). White-water rafting is being planned along with a baseball game, picnic and a host of other events. Of course your ideas are always welcome. Call me at home, 626-9592, or introduce yourself at Friday night services.

—Marc Mencher, Social Program

## Play Ball!

Attention all baseball fans! (Wait until the fans at Candlestick Park see this!) CSZ will descend on that stadium on Sunday, Sept. 3 to watch our own San Francisco Giants battle the New York Mets. Game time is scheduled for 1:05 pm. We'd like to purchase a block of tickets for the game so that we can all sit together, schmooze, eat, drink and make merry. Because the Giants vs. Mets games are always a sell-out at Candlestick, we'd like to get our tickets ASAP. If you are interested in attending, please call Eric Keitel at 239-8180 by May 15 and make your reservation. Tickets will be priced between \$7 and \$10 depending on which sections are available at the time of purchase.

## Theatre: Andorra

"What Is a Jew?" This is the question being posed at the West Coast premiere of Max Frisch's *Andorra*.

*Andorra* is the story of how a community can easily become virulently anti-semitic. *Andorra* will inaugurate the Pacific Jewish Theatre's new facility, the Spice Box Cultural Center, which is conveniently located just off the Ashby exit in Berkeley (behind Whole Earth Access) at 820 Heintz St. There is unlimited free parking. Bill Reichblum, directing the production, is considered one of the leading young directors in the country.

Each ticket will cost \$10. Curtain time is at 8 pm, Sunday, May 28. *Reservations must be received by May 24.* Send reservations to: Marc Mencher, 488 Waller St., San Francisco 94117, 626-9592. Make checks payable to CSZ. A map will be sent to each ticket purchaser. For those who are interested, a pre-theatre get-together will be arranged.

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# Israel—The Battle for Religious Pluralism

*Portions of the following are adapted from a March address by Rabbi Eric Yoffie, executive director of the Association of Reform Zionists, to the ARZA National Assembly.*

Many of us have distanced ourselves from the Israel we believed would bring together the disparate elements of the Jewish world toward a common center. We throw up our hands in despair at the apparent triumph of right-wing values in Israel: the growth of religious fanaticism, the absence of recognition for the non-Orthodox movements, and the denial of basic civil rights to women and others by the Orthodox establishment. This distancing, however, may come from an insufficient understanding about the Jewish past.

The distinguished Israeli historian, Yosef Gorny, states that from the beginning of Jewish history, two value systems have existed side by side. One is the fervently and militantly national-religious; it emphasizes national assertiveness rooted in power. The other might be called moral-religious, and attempts to merge national aspirations with universal values. Proponents of the first system include the Hasmonean Kings, the Zealots who defied Rome, and today's Gush Emunim. Advocates of the latter include the Biblical prophets, our own Reform movement, and 20th century socialist Zionism.

Israel is not exempt from these struggles that are at the heart of our historical experience, nor does it stand apart from Jewish history. Israel reflects that history—including the tensions and polarities which have always been central to our being.

Today Israelis are almost evenly divided, with the advocates of militarism and religious extremism having a narrow majority. What is required of us, and what ARZA promotes, is the renewed identification with the Jewish state, and a determination to join the battle to tip the scales on behalf of an Israel committed to progressive and pluralistic principles.

ARZA and its Jerusalem-based Israel Religious Action Center (IRAC), is fighting a long list of Orthodox legislative proposals. These include restrictions on abortion, Shabbat activity, autopsies, archeological activity and child-custody procedures. Significantly, some understaffed Knesset members have begun to

turn to IRAC to draft their own proposed legislation, including the essential electoral reform. While ARZA is not a political organization, inevitably it is beginning to wield important political influence.

In Israel, IRAC is operated by the Israel Movement for Progressive Judaism. The Israel Movement stresses Judaism's historic connection to the Land of Israel and the critical importance of a strong, progressive, dynamic Zionist movement. Progressive Judaism is concerned not only about the physical survival and security of the Jewish state but, equally, for the spiritual, value-centered soul of the nation. Progressive Judaism is committed to ensuring that the nation reflect Judaism's highest prophetic character which calls for freedom, equality and peace among all the inhabitants of the land.

At the April Va'ad meeting, the board voted to include an ARZA brochure with this newsletter. Almost 200 UAHCMember congregations encourage their members to join ARZA.

If you are a member of CSZ, enclosed with this newsletter is a brochure which further describes the goals and activities of ARZA and an accompanying letter from Rabbi Kahn urging you to become an ARZA member. For further information, please contact me at 824-4449.

—Ron Lezell

## Open to Suggestions

The Ritual Committee will soon begin preparing for the High Holidays. We welcome your suggestions and comments. Please send them, typewritten, to Steve Greenberg at the synagogue office. Include your name so I can contact you if I have questions. Be assured that I will keep your suggestions anonymous unless you indicate otherwise. To fit our planning schedule, please have your letter to us by Monday, June 12.

—Steve Greenberg,  
Ritual Committee Chair

## Naches

Congratulations to Ora Prochovnick, who was profiled in *California Lawyer* magazine, the official magazine of the California State Bar Association.

## Treasurer's Notes

To err is indeed human, but to really mess things up requires a computer! I would like to apologize to any members whose April 1 dues statements did not reflect their actual current dues status, either because of errors on my part or other clerical or mechanical errors. I am working now to resolve problems reflected in some members' dues statements. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

I would like to offer some advice, based on having resolved similar mistakes that have recurred over the last few months, to avoid such problems in the future:

- Please write the word "dues" on your check so there can be no doubt that it is for your membership dues.

- Never combine a dues payment with payments and/or donations for other purposes (such as seder reservations, class fees, the Building Fund assessment, etc.).

- Mail your dues payments well before the end of a quarter so that they can be reflected in quarter-end dues statements. Dues statements are generated July 1, October 1, January 1, and April 1 and are sent out soon thereafter. As required under our bylaws, you will receive a quarterly dues statement for each quarter indicating dues paid and owing, even if you are paid up to date.

If you call the treasurer, it is most helpful to have ready your most recent dues statement, your checkbook register, or other records that might help in correcting a mistake. I can be reached at 821-4134 to discuss dues (except on Saturdays), but a note sent to the synagogue marked "Attention Treasurer" can be just as effective.

I urge any member whose financial status has changed and thus becomes unable to fulfill a dues pledge to discuss such circumstances with me. Under the bylaws, I have the authority to modify dues pledges and/or assessments and am obligated to keep such modifications confidential.

Finally, please send in your 1989/90 membership dues pledge form to the synagogue office if you have not already done so. Let me thank all of you who have responded.

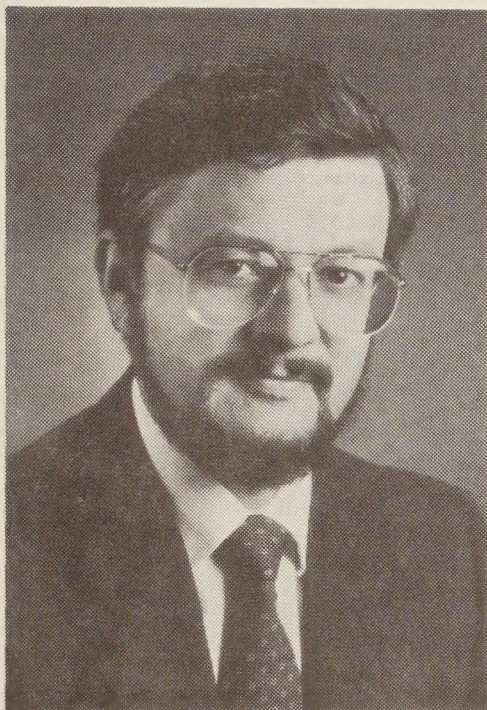
—Ben Schalit, Treasurer



## Consul General Kney-Tal to Speak

At our Shabbat service on Friday, May 12, the Honorable Harry Kney-Tal, consul general of Israel, will be our guest speaker. We are particularly pleased that his talk, to be followed by questions and answers, will be on the Shabbat during the community-wide observance of Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israel Independence Day).

Harry Kney-Tal was born in Romania in 1944. After waiting 13 years to obtain



an emigration visa, Mr. Kney-Tal's family finally came to Israel in 1963. Mr. Kney-Tal spent a year on Kibbutz Ma'abarot before serving in the Israeli Air Force. Upon completing his military service, Mr. Kney-Tal enrolled in the Hebrew University where he earned a B.A. degree in Russian Studies and Political Science (1970), followed by an M.A. in International Relations (1973). From 1972 to 1980, Mr. Kney-Tal was a research fellow at the Soviet and East European Research Center of the Hebrew University.

## Condolences

We at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav extend our sympathy to the following members who have suffered a recent loss.

To **Mike Rankin**, on the loss of his friend, Kirby Smith.

To **Jeff Friedman**, on the loss of his father, Howard Gill.

Mr. Kney-Tal joined the Foreign Service in 1974 as a Soviet analyst. In 1978 he was a member of the Israeli delegation to the 32nd United Nations General Assembly. In 1980 Mr. Kney-Tal was assigned to the Israeli Embassy in Washington, D.C., as a first secretary and later as counselor for Congressional affairs. In his capacity as Congressional liaison, Mr. Kney-Tal was directly involved with enhancing Israel's relations with the U.S. Congress. In 1985 Mr. Kney-Tal returned to Jerusalem and was appointed Director of the Division of Great Powers. In this capacity Mr. Kney-Tal was part of the efforts to promote the prospects for peace in the Middle East and became involved in the process of normalizing relations with the USSR. In August 1988 he came to San Francisco to take up the position of Consul General of Israel of the Pacific Northwest.

We hope that you will join us for this special Shabbat service.

## The Not-Too-Distant Call of the Shofar

In preparation for the High Holidays this year, the Ritual Committee will offer summer training in shofar blowing (Rosh Hashanah begins Friday evening, September 29). In the past few years, the number of CSZ people who can perform this mitzvah has dwindled because people have moved out of town. If you think you may have a hidden talent as a *baal tekiah* (shofar blower), or if you have even a remote interest and wonder if you could do it, please call Steve Greenberg at 864-5381 by June 1.

## ☆☆☆☆☆☆ Birthdays ☆☆☆☆☆☆

- |    |                        |    |                          |
|----|------------------------|----|--------------------------|
| 1  | Michael N. P.          | 16 | Kenneth P. Burke         |
| 2  | Rena Frantz            | 17 | Janice D. Gould-Macomber |
| 3  | Marion H. Trentman     | 17 | Ed Gabay                 |
| 4  | Eileen Dunn            | 18 | Carol J. Cohen           |
| 6  | Joyce Amburgey         | 18 | David Stein              |
| 6  | Aaron Garay Buchbinder | 18 | Jane Graeven             |
| 7  | Tom Steel              | 20 | Richard Wilson           |
| 8  | Shelley Samuels        | 21 | Gerald Rosenstein        |
| 8  | Stephanie Hannaford    | 21 | Lolma Olson              |
| 9  | Sherry Sporn           | 23 | Suzanne Shimek           |
| 14 | Jonah-Enrique O.       | 25 | Jeffery Serman           |
| 15 | Alison H. Loebel       | 26 | Sylvia Weisenberg        |
| 16 | Sharone Abramowitz     | 28 | Sherie Ann Koshover      |
| 16 | Ron Shore              | 29 | Eric Keitel              |
| 16 | Edward Tanovitz        | 29 | Marilyn Kalman           |

## Yom Hashoah Reminder

The Education Committee is sponsoring a showing and discussion of *A Holocaust Family Album* at 8 pm on Tuesday, May 2 as part of CSZ's observance of Yom Hashoah. This video was written by five Bay Area lesbians whose parents survived the Holocaust. It tells their personal stories of coming to grips with the Holocaust and its effects on family relationships.

The discussion of the video will be led by Blance Blachman, a CSZ member, along with other women from this project. Please join us for this event.

## Oneg Sponsors

During March, onegs were sponsored by the following generous people:

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 3  | Mike Rankin, in celebration of the opening of a Jewish Community Center in Moscow, and in honor of the prisoners of conscience who have kept the Jewish spark alive during the years of oppression |
| 10 | Paul Cohen and Bob Gutterman, in honor of Hannah and Michael Barenbaum   |
| 17 | Rabbi Yoel Kahn and Dan Bellm, in honor of Dan's conversion  |
| 24 | Howard Blechman, in memory of Ron Gertz  |

All you have to do to sponsor an oneg is to think of the occasion and contact the synagogue office (861-6932). The cost of sponsoring an oneg is \$50. You can also provide the food, flowers, etc. for a more personal touch.



## Rabbi Schindler's Compassion

*"I declare myself a rabbi for all Jews, at every moment of life, not only for heterosexual Jews, or for gay Jews only at their funerals."*

*I declare myself a mourner for all those who have died of AIDS, most of them young, in the fullness of life and self-discovery.*

*I declare myself a consoler for those who have passed through the valley of the shadow of death, accompanying friends and loved ones on their last painful journey.*

*I declare myself a compatriot of those who are living with AIDS, living more fully than many of us who take God's gifts of life for granted."*

These are the words of Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, spoken at a service of hope, of healing, and of remembrance for people with AIDS and their loved ones, at Leo Baeck Temple in Los Angeles last March. It was a powerful and moving sermon which touched the lives of every member of our community.

Visiting an AIDS ward in New York, Rabbi Schindler saw for himself the warmth, affection, and caring that people with AIDS receive from their lovers and friends. Perhaps it was this experience which prompted him to say in his sermon, of those who would deny the sanctity and integrity of gay and lesbian relationships:

*"We have not as a [Jewish] community crossed the boundaries of Otherness—the fringed boundaries at which compassion gives way to identification. We have not extended our embrace to include gay and lesbian Jews. We have not acknowledged their presence in the midst of our synagogues, nor consciously included gay and lesbian parents as part of the Jewish family circle. In-*

*deed, we have not affirmed that we all are family; that people with AIDS and their friends and their relatives and their lovers are our sons, our sisters, our neighbors, our fellow Jews. We who were Marranos in Madrid, who clung to the closet of assimilation and conversion in order to live without molestation, we cannot deny the demand for gay and lesbian visibility!*

*"As individuals, we still have much to fear, much to reckon with. But let us not add to our loneliness and our suffering by believing that God does not recognize us and our relationships. Let us rather exalt our relationships so that they may be worthy of God's gaze. Let us learn that God's image is reflected in each and every face."*

I read the sermon in late March, when I went to New York for a meeting of the UAHC AIDS Committee. We spent much of the first hour of the meeting discussing it, then invited Rabbi Schindler to join us, to share with us his thoughts and feelings about having prepared it. Clearly the experience had challenged and shaken him. No one can confront the reality of AIDS without being shaken, and some are overwhelmed, stunned into inaction and despair. Rabbi Schindler was not. Instead, it brought out, in this sensitive and compassionate man, a commitment that will be felt throughout the whole of our movement.

The sermon will be published in the fall issue of *Reform Judaism*. It will be a part of his presidential message at the Biennial Convention in New Orleans in November. He will not let it rest until he is convinced that Reform Jews are doing all they possibly can to mitigate the suffering the epidemic has caused, and to help bring it to a speedy end.

## Growing Awareness

Most of the rest of the committee meeting was devoted to preparing for the Biennial. Instead of the four AIDS workshops we had in 1987, we will have seven, going beyond "AIDS 101" to "What You and Your Congregation Can Do." There will be a service of hope and remembrance for all 3,000 delegates, with the Quilt as a focus. Rabbi Kahn is helping prepare the liturgy, and Debbie Friedman is creating the music. No one will leave the convention unaware of the magnitude of the AIDS crisis, or unsure of what he or she can do about it.

Many members of the committee have seen the Quilt, but not all, so I took eight panels with me, four of Sha'ar Zahav members. I carried them with the respect I would have shown a Torah scroll. A rabbi friend said I should have wrapped it in a talis. The ticket agent at SFO first insisted I check it, since the bag that contained it was a bit large. When I told her what it was, and that I just had to take it on board with me, she said, "We'll get it on board the aircraft if I have to go with you as an honor guard!"

One morning I was late for the committee meeting because there was a demonstration in front of City Hall, protesting Mayor Koch's cuts in programs for PWAs, and I couldn't get to my subway station. So I figured what the heck, and put on a button and joined in.

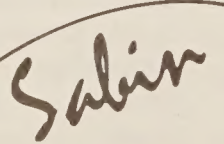
There are other things to do in New York, of course, and I did them. I visited with friends, walked across the bridge to the old country—Brooklyn—and saw "Les Miserables" for the third time. It still gets to me when Fantine sings, "he slept a summer by my side, he filled my days with endless wonder—."

But this time another song seemed to have more meaning, the song of the students at the barricades: "Will you come and stand with me, will you join in our crusade!"

I think that's just what Rabbi Schindler was doing—joining us at the barricades. To him, and to those like him—and there are many—welcome aboard, and God bless.

—Mike Rankin

**DR. DIANE SABIN**  
**3892—24TH STREET**  
**SAN FRANCISCO**  
**CA 94114**  
**415/826-8300**



**CHIROPRACTIC**



## Va'ad Report

Va'ad meetings don't get longer but they sometime seem to. April's meeting, with all members present, covered a great deal of ground, made important decisions, and didn't run over schedule, but at times, it looked like it would.

Rabbi Kahn brought some good news in his update on the Anti-Defamation League "World of Difference" controversy. As you may remember, this is the program aimed at educating children about the evils of discrimination but completely ignores homophobia. The ADL has agreed to include references to gay and lesbian discrimination in its literature and publicity and Sha'ar Zahav has learned there is much support and respect for us among Jewish community organizations. A step backward, however, is the refusal of Sinai Chapel to perform the ritual washing of a deceased gay man's body in preparation for burial. Several Jewish organizations are joining with Sha'ar Zahav protesting this refusal which has no basis in Jewish law. It is a blatant example of AIDS-phobia.

The treasurer's report included mention of the profit of \$165 from the Purim party thanks to Steve Elman's careful planning. The Va'ad used this opportunity to authorize the treasurer to transfer funds between Sha'ar Zahav checking accounts, at his discretion, to maximize earnings from interest.

Discussion of the Dues Education Implementation Plan began by explaining that parts of the plan include the Membership Dues Pledge Form and accompanying letter that you should already have received. The Dues Education Committee will follow up with a proposed meeting to discuss with individual members the problems they are having with their pledge. These meetings will be confidential and only when and if a member is having a problem with his pledge. Va'ad members felt it was better to tackle these problems now rather than at a future date after Sha'ar Zahav's financial condition worsens—a distinct possibility if dues policy is not addressed now.

As required by our bylaws, the Va'ad had a second reading of the proposed budget for 1989-90 and bylaw revisions. While not happy with the fact that the proposed budget projects a deficit, the Va'ad cannot see any way to avoid this.

Bylaw revisions accepted dealt with the definition of "quorum" at membership meetings, confidentiality of requests for special consideration of dues pledges and membership on the Personnel Committee.

The Va'ad heard and accepted recommendations of several committees. Bikkur Cholim requested disbursement from the AIDS Fund of \$400 each to Jewish Family and Children's Services, AIDS Food Bank, and Open Hand. Also unanimously approved were four new members proposed by the Membership Committee. A proposal to help publicize the Association of Reformed Zionists in America (ARZA) was approved. Accepted (though not before prolonged debate) was the Ritual Committee and rabbi's recommended new Kashrut policy. This now clarifies what foods can be provided for congregational functions as well as at onegs. The Va'ad chose not to accept a proposal of the Ritual Committee that the ever-lengthening Yom Kippur Yahrzeit List Policy be changed. The list will be read aloud again this coming year and probably be debated aloud, too.

The Va'ad ended the open session at 9:30. A closed session to discuss personnel matters followed.

—Bill Goldstein, Acting Recorder

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

### Anniversaries

- 4 Michael W. Lipson & Todd S. Vrebalovich
- 17 Joan Gelfand & Debbie Kinney
- 29 Carol Heller & Annie Lasson

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

## Courses on Jewish Women at SFJCC

The San Francisco Jewish Community Center will offer two courses on Jewish women taught from a feminist perspective.

"Jewish Women in the Modern Era" will meet for five Tuesday evenings beginning May 9. The survey course will look at the participation of Jewish women in movements for social change and spiritual growth in the modern era. Topics include revolutionaries in Russia, feminists and resistance fighters in Europe, pioneers in Israel and the intersection of feminism and Jewish renewal in the United States.

"Jewish Women in the Biblical Era" will meet for five Tuesday evenings beginning July 11. This course will include recent feminist scholarship of Biblical heroines and feminine mythic archetypes.

Each course runs from 7:30 to 9 pm. Registration fee for each class is \$25 for members of the JCC and \$30 for the public.

The instructor for both courses is Thyme S. Siegel, a feminist instructor and writer who was an early Women's Studies graduate from UC Berkeley. She is currently teaching a course at Cabrillo College on Jewish women.

For more information about these classes or other Jewish Studies courses at the SFJCC, please call Jeff Sokolow at 346-6040 ext. 248. Or you may call the instructor, Thyme S. Siegel at 334-8670.

### ATTORNEY

**DAVID R. GELLMAN**  
Goldstein & Gellman  
(415) 621-2966

•Contracts & Leases  
•Estate Planning & Wills

•Real Estate  
•Business Law & Litigation

Evening &  
Weekend  
Appointments

1540 Market St  
Suite 490  
San Francisco



## Contributions

Sha'ar Zahav welcomes all contributions, of all sizes, to mark any event, and to any of our funds. Contributions will be acknowledged in the *Forward* unless requested otherwise.

Donations were made to Sha'ar Zahav's funds in the past months by the following contributors:

### *AIDS Fund*

**Paul Glackman**

**Ami Zusman**

**Sam Thal**, in honor of Frank Hyman and Ron Wilmot on their new home and for hosting the newsletter mailing for many years

### *Bikkur Cholim Fund*

**Roger Klorese**, in memory of Ann Klorese

**Eli Weinstein**, in memory of Saul Held, owner of the Corner Grocery Bar during the 1970s

**Ann Biderman**, in honor of Susan Stahl becoming chair of the Oneg Committee

**Allan Berenstein**, in memory of Barbara Frank, Phil Charney's sister

**Paul Cohen**, in honor of Claudia Bernard's leadership of the Project Open Hand Christmas Day Program

**Mary K. Sweet**, in support of CSZ's AIDS support work

### *Bitachon (Building Security) Fund*

**Robert P. Rowe**

**Martha Caire**

### *Building Fund*

**Richard Sinkoff**, in honor of his new apartment

**Susan Michelle Stahl**, in honor of Sylvia Weisenberg and Lori Wineinger's sixth year anniversary

**Paul Cohen & Bob Gutterman**, in memory of Shirley Keitel

### *Education Fund*

**Shelley Montgomery & Cheryl Price**, in honor of their son, Jacob's, first birthday

**Philip Charney**, in honor of the birth of Lucy Rose Spalding on January 11, 1989

**Nancy Epstein**, in memory of Marilyn Epstein Levine

### *Social Action Fund*

**Ami Zusman**

### *General Fund*

**Linthicum P. Turner**, in honor of his birthday

**David Gellman**

**Barry Chersky**, in honor of the birth and brit of Ari Blum Chersky

**Lorelei Sontag**

**Ron Lezell**, in memory of Dorothy Gendell

**David Delroy**, in appreciation of the concern and caring he received from the congregation during his recent recovery from surgery

**Jeanne Adleman**, in loving memory of Barbara Rosenblum

**Julia Apter**, in memory of Bruce Apter  
**The Beefeater Foundation**

**Wendy Weiss**

**Steve Elman**, in memory of Barbara Frank, Phil Charney's sister

**Richard Inlander**, in memory of Jack Darr's father

**Allen Harris**, in memory of Shirley Keitel, and in memory of Mary Ball, mother of Mary Foley

**Richard Inlander**, in honor of the marriage of Susan Horst and Fred Borg

**Richard Inlander & Ben Schalit**

Donations in memory of Shirley Keitel were made by:

**Alex Ingersoll & David Stein**

**Daniel Chesir & Stefan Rowniak**

**Ron Lezell**

**Roger M. Gilbert, M.D.**

**Rob Tat**

**Allan Berenstein**

**Steve Elman & Tom Holt**

**Gerald Rosenstein**

**Bruce Katz**

**A. David Shaber**

**Garry Wood**

### *Library Fund*

**Richard P. Inlander**, in memory of Ted Mendonca

**Allan P. Gold**, in memory of Eric Keitel's mother

### *Prayerbook Fund*

**Allen Harris**, in memory of his uncle, Albert Yanofsky

**Steve Greenberg**, in memory of Shirley Keitel

**Susan Michelle Stahl**, in honor of Mike Rankin's unique and beautiful leadership of Shabbat services

**Jonathan Funk & John Arnold**, in memory of Shirley Keitel

### *Rabbi's Discretionary Fund*

**Ron Wilmot & Frank Hyman**, in memory of Shirley Keitel

**Shelley Montgomery**, in honor of the continuing recovery of Cheryl Price

**Ami Zusman**, in memory of Benjamin Hertzl Saperstein and Cheryl Orvis

**George Ash**, in honor of the Rabbi's AIDS work

**Sandra Butler**, in memory of Barbara Rosenblum

### *Sanctuary Bond Fund*

**Ami Zusman**

**Peter Barnes**

### *Torah Fund*

**Don Albert**, in memory of Shirley Keitel

**David Glassberg**, in memory of Joseph Glassberg

**Linthicum P. Turner**, in honor of his birthday

## Classified Ads

**FOR RENT:** One large 5-room, 2 bedroom flat w/ garage, fireplace, hardwood floors. Also, one studio apt. Panoramic views, decks, shared hot tub, garden, laundry. Newly painted and carpeted. Bernal Hts. \$1,100/mo. + \$550/mo. respectively. Shimon, 621-1059.

**SHARE** beautifully furnished 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with owner. View. Glen Park area. Many amenities. \$500 plus 1/2 utilities. Call Hal, 469-5882.

## New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained several new members and friends in April. A warm welcome to the latest people to join our family:

**Robert Coffman**

**Susan Faimow-Wong**

**Henry Mautner**

**Laura Stuchinsky**

New members are welcomed and honored at Friday night services on the last Friday of the month. By making them feel a part of our family, we can all help to show our new members that they have a valuable place at Sha'ar Zahav.



## Yahrzeits

- 1 Eugene Bender, friend of Bernard Pechter
- 2 (Nisan 27) Morris Goldman, grandfather of Jonathan Goldman
- 2 (Nisan 27) Hans Rosenstein, brother of Jerry Rosenstein
- 4 Lois Jeanne Forman, aunt of Ellen Peskin
- 4 Sadye Millner, mother of Lawrence Millner
- 5 Ruth Hirst, grandmother of Milton Estes
- 5 Lawrence Burke, son of Ken Burke
- 11 Sam Silverberg, grandfather of Yael Silverberg-Willis
- 12 Jessie Beebe, grandmother of Jean-Charles Bellour
- 12 Helen Epstein, aunt of Alita Rosenfeld
- 13 Miriam Dreskin, mother-in-law of Barry Siegel
- 14 Krag Rjirdaal, friend of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav
- 14 Harold Leben, uncle of Rob Tat
- 15 (Iyyar 10) Jenny Andelman Lofchie, grandmother of Sandra Lofchie
- 15 Doris Mesinger, mother of Jonathan Mesinger
- 17 (Iyyar 12) Abe Schorr, father of Cynthia Schorr
- 19 Joan Icke, mother of Cindy Icke
- 19 Alan Altman, member of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav
- 19 Hyman Feinstein, father of Jay Feinstein
- 19 (Sivan 3) Saul Prochovnick, grandfather of Ora Prochovnick
- 20 Marika Chill, mother of Yo Schneeman
- 21 Marvin Saslafskey, father of Sharyn Saslafskey
- 22 Roseann Serman, mother of Jeffrey Serman
- 22 (Iyyar 17) Frances Raim, mother of Leila Raim
- 22 (Iyyar 17) Sarah Newman, grandmother of Jonathan Schwartz
- 25 (Sivan 9) Bertha Kornfiel Miller, mother of G. Murray Miller
- 26 Ida Parker, mother of Harold Parker
- 29 (Iyyar 24), Goldie Markson Rosen, mother of Barry Rosen
- 29 Rose Jacobstein, aunt of Betty Kalis

- 29 Philip Hilsenrad, father of Marjorie Hilsenrad
- 30 Steven Koenigsberg, friend of Don Albert
- 30 Mary Thal, mother of Sam Thal
- 30 Jasper Cline, grandfather of Diane Spaugh

## Candlelight March

The sixth annual AIDS Candlelight Memorial March will take place on Sunday, May 28. We will gather at 8 pm in front of the Baghdad Cafe, at the corner of 16th and Noe. Marching with us will be members of other concerned congregations and Jewish communal organizations. For more information about the march, contact Mobilization Against AIDS at 863-4676.

## Synagogue Information

### Rabbi Yoel Kahn

#### Officers:

*President*, Robin Leonard  
*Vice President*, Eric Keitel  
*Treasurer*, Ben Schalit  
*Acting Recorder*, Bill Goldstein

#### Va'ad (Board) Members:

Don Albert  
 Allan Berenstein  
 Tiela Chalmers  
 Steve Greenberg  
 Merry Luskin  
 Jose Luis Moscovich  
 Alita Rosenfeld  
 Jonathan Schwartz  
 Dana Vinicoff  
 Richard Inlander (ex officio)

#### Committee Chairs:

*Bikkur Cholim*, Paul Cohen  
*Brotherhood*, by committee  
*Building*, Ken Burke  
*Bylaws*, Richard Inlander  
*Cemetery*, Richard Inlander  
*Children's Chavurah*, Sue Douglass & Jill Rose  
*Cookbook Project*, Sanford Friedman  
*Dinner Chavurah*, Jerry Hipps  
*Education*, by committee  
*Finance*, Don Albert  
*Israel Chavurah*, Ron Lezell  
*Long-Range Planning*, Tiela Chalmers & Daniel Chesir  
*Membership*, Merry Luskin  
*Newsletter*, Howard Blechman & Alita Rosenfeld  
*Oneg*, Susan Stahl & Scott Mezistrano  
*Past Presidents Council*, Don Albert  
*Personnel*, Irene Ogus  
*Public Relations*, Sharyn Saslafskey & Andy Zimmerman

*Religious School*, David Gellman & Ida Kuluk  
*Ritual*, Steve Greenberg; assistant, Ora Prochovnick  
*Social Action*, Jonathan Mesinger & Lisa Katz  
*Social Program*, Marc Mencher  
*Spirituality Chavurah*, Larry Wexler  
*Women's Chavurah*, Ann Biderman

#### Office Personnel:

*Manager*, Jenny Helbraun  
*Secretary*, Leticia Montealegre

**Office Hours:** Mon. 9-5; Tue. 1-5; Wed. 10-6; Thu. 9-5; Fri. 9-5.

**Emergency Number:** In an emergency, the Congregation can be contacted outside of office hours by calling 420-9718.

**Services** are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 pm (except as noted), with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the last Saturday of each month at 10:30 am — check calendar for each month.

**Congregation Sha'ar Zahav** (Congregation of the Golden Gate) is located in the Upper Market District of San Francisco at 220 Danvers at Caselli, which is one block south of the intersection of 18th & Market streets. By public transport, take MUNI bus 33 Stanyan to 18th & Danvers and walk one block south on Danvers to Caselli.

**Member** Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Mike Rankin, Liaison) and World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations (Ora Prochovnick, Liaison).



# Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

שַׁעַר זָהָב

220 DANVERS AT CASELLI, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94114

(415) 861-6932

MAY

ניסן-אייר

**1** Monday  
26 Nisan

**2** Tuesday  
27 Nisan

**Yom Hashoah**

- 7:30pm, Adult Education Classes
- 7:30pm, Holocaust Family Album viewing and discussion

**3** Wednesday  
28 Nisan

**4** Thursday  
29 Nisan

- 7pm, Membership Committee, 422 Lawton
- 7:30pm, Social Action Committee

**5** Friday  
30 Nisan

**Parshat Kedoshim  
Omer—16th Day**

- 6:15pm, Kadimah Shabbat Dinner
- 7:30pm, Yom Moreh—Children's Services, Rabbi Yoel Kahn
- 8:15pm, Late Services, Nancy Snow & Steve Greenberg, Candidates' Night

**6** Saturday  
1 Iyyar

- 6pm, Women's Chavurah Havdallah at Susan Tubessing's, 6501 Pinehaven, Oakland, 339-1662

**7** Sunday  
2 Iyyar

**8** Monday  
3 Iyyar

- 6:30pm, Va'ad meeting

**9** Tuesday  
4 Iyyar

- 7:30pm, Adult Education Classes
- 8:30pm, Jewish Bio-Ethics

**10** Wednesday  
5 Iyyar

**Yom Ha-Atzma'ut**

**11** Thursday  
6 Iyyar

- 7:30pm Newsletter editing, 1711 Castro

**12** Friday  
7 Iyyar

**Parshat Emor  
Omer—23rd Day**

- 8:15pm, Services, Rabbi Yoel Kahn & Ron Lezell
- Hon. Harry Kney-Tal speaks after services

**13** Saturday  
8 Iyyar

- 9:30am, Kadimah, Bet Class
- 10:30am, Bill Ashley-Dobbin Bar Mitzvah
- 4pm, Healing Service
- 8pm, Ronnie Gilbert Concert at First Congregational Church

**14** Sunday  
9 Iyyar

**Mother's Day**

- JCF Israel Fair, Golden Gate Bandshell
- 4pm, Ensemble

**15** Monday  
10 Iyyar

- 6:30pm, Dues Education Committee

**16** Tuesday  
11 Iyyar

- 7:30pm, Adult Education

Classes

- 8:30pm, Jewish Bio-Ethics

**17** Wednesday  
12 Iyyar

- 7pm, Ritual Committee mailing party

**18** Thursday  
13 Iyyar

- 7pm, Religious School Committee, 1442 E. 36th St., Oakland
- 7pm, Building Committee
- 7:30pm, Bikkur Cholim

**19** Friday  
14 Iyyar

**Parshat Behar  
Omer—30th Day**

- 8:15pm, Torah Service, Jose Luis Moscovich & Dana Vinicoff

**20** Saturday  
15 Iyyar

- 9:30am, Kadimah, Bet Class
- 9:30am, Children's Chavurah Planning Meeting
- 1pm, Shabbat Picnic—Kadimah
- 1pm, Spirituality Chavurah Hike

**21** Sunday  
16 Iyyar

- CSZ Annual Meeting

**22** Monday  
17 Iyyar

**23** Tuesday  
18 Iyyar

**Lag B'Omer**

- 7:30pm, Adult Education Classes
- 8:30pm, Jewish Bio-Ethics

**24** Wednesday  
19 Iyyar

**25** Thursday  
20 Iyyar

- 6:30pm, Ritual Committee
- 7:30pm, Newsletter mailing, 14 Grandview Terr.

**26** Friday  
21 Iyyar

**Parshat Bechukotai  
Omer—37th Day**

- 8:15pm, Services, Rabbi Yoel Kahn

**27** Saturday  
22 Iyyar

- 9:30am, Kadimah, Bet Class
- 10:30am, Morning Services, Rabbi Yoel Kahn
- 8pm, AIDS Candlelight Memorial March

**28** Sunday  
23 Iyyar

- 10:30am, Kaiser Brunch, Kaiser Hospital, San Francisco
- 4pm, Ensemble
- 8pm, Theatre Party at Pacific Jewish Theatre, 820 Heinz St., Berkeley

**29** Monday  
24 Iyyar

**Memorial Day**

- 7:30pm, Education Committee

**30** Tuesday  
25 Iyyar

- 7:30pm, Adult Education Classes
- 8:30pm, Jewish Bio-Ethics

**31** Wednesday  
26 Iyyar

**5** Friday, June 2, 28 Iyyar

**Parshat Bemidbar, Omer—44th Day, Mevarchim Chodesh Sivan, 8:15pm, Services, Rabbi Yoel Kahn & Sue Douglass**